



Looking to 2018

ANZGOG Strategic Plan & Action

The ANZGOG aim is to improve outcomes and quality of life for women with gynaecological cancer through conducting and promoting cooperative clinical trials and undertaking multidisciplinary research into the causes, prevention and treatments of gynaecological cancer.

The ANZGOG Strategic Plan 2013-2018 outlines the five key strategy directions of the Australia New Zealand Gynaecological Oncology Group.

Introduction

The Australia New Zealand Gynaecological Oncology Group (ANZGOG) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to gynaecological cancer research. It was established in 2000 to foster and support collaborative research throughout Australia and New Zealand to improve outcomes for women with gynaecological malignancies. It has over 500 members.

Context for the Strategic Plan

The clinical trials environment is changing in Australia and internationally, a number of factors have been identified which are likely to influence ANZGOG's achievements in this strategic plan:

- Fewer Phase III clinical trials are being undertaken in Australia as cost is higher than in other countries
- With the advent of treatments targeting subgroups of patients with specific molecular and genetic aberrations, clinical trials are changing, requiring smaller trial populations at a larger number of sites.
- Access to tissue samples is also critical for fundamental molecular tumour characterisation
- Underlying patient characteristics are changing with an ageing population and more obesity related cancer.
- Trends in grant funding are changing, with more funding being awarded to research with a focus on implementation and population research.
- More broadly there is an increasing focus on clinical trial activity as a component of accredited cancer centres.

Five Year Strategic Goals

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... in the case of gynaecological cancer, ANZGOG have established themselves as one of the top three trials groups in the world.

This success is based on the collective intellectual power of the group, its ambitious and respected leadership, its collegial culture and the fact that its core funding enables it to function professionally.

My dealings with ANZGOG have been with a group who are not only committed to excellence but are genuinely collaborative and enabling within their body, and internationally ...

Previously Professor Kitchener has been Chair of the Gynecologic Cancer InterGroup (GCIG) and Chair of CRUK's trials funding committee, CTAAC. Currently a Director of the Gynecologic Cancer InterGroup, GCIG.

1. Undertake a diverse portfolio of clinically important research in gynaecological cancer that has the greatest potential to improve patient outcomes including:
 - Pilot, early Phase and large Phase III clinical trials of interventions, including surgical, medical and radiation oncology
 - Translational research
 - Quality of life and symptom benefit studies
 - Rare tumours research
2. Build capacity for translational research in gynaecological cancer through the development of a national gynaecological cancer biobank
3. Build capacity for gynaecological cancer research in Australia through collaboration with relevant national and international groups with a focus on Asia.
4. Recognised as the leader in gynaecological cancer research in Australia and New Zealand by clinicians, consumers and cancer organisations.
5. Become a financially sustainable organisation, not reliant on grant funding for core business by 2018.

Supporting Activities

- a. Aligning the ANZGOG scientific committee structure to that of the Gynecologic Cancer InterGroup [GCIG]
- b. Identifying and engaging future leaders in committees and the strategic plan
- c. Balancing representation across all States and areas of research expertise
- d. Continuing to build member engagement
- e. Building relationships with related professional organisations to maximise reach
- f. Encouraging involvement by trainees and early career researchers in the organisation
- g. Linking members for improved communication and involvement